



# NEVADA STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

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## President's Letter

Thank you for the continued opportunity to protect public safety and further the education mission to modernize Infection Control and Prevention terminology within Chapter 644 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 644). Infection prevention is everyone's job and each licensee plays an important role in public safety, including how to refer to proper infection control standards and procedures.

During the ten years that I have served as the aesthetician member alongside more than seventeen appointed Board members and hardworking staff competently guided by Gary Landry, Executive Director, I have remained steadfast as to the necessity of improving infection control compliance by regulating a more ambitious and sophisticated reference to "Infection Prevention".

The Nevada State Board of Cosmetology (NSBC) has an important obligation to continue the dialogue to inform legislators and standardize legislation to the use of the term "Infection Prevention." In fact, this practical discipline is as essential as hand-washing and cannot go unrecognized within our professions. It further serves as the basis for the common title being adopted within health care: "Infection Prevention and Control".

Our cosmetology profession must employ science-based practices and protocols within licensed schools, establishments, kiosks, and wherever licensees and registrants operate, including trends that address factors related to the spread of infections. The decisions of the NSBC serve to protect the public and provide the gold-standard for infection prevention policies of other member states of the National Inter-State Council for State Boards of Cosmetology.

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC.org) specifically call for "spreading knowledge [and] preventing infection". APIC promotes infection prevention through state and federal legislation, resources and an advocacy toolkit, which includes policy positions and the notice of the International Infection Prevention Week, October 2016.

The NSBC has the opportunity to discuss a wide range of down-to-earth cleaning methods for the licensees and identify realistic strategies that are useful to licensees. Equally important to our regulation responsibilities is the call for standardized language as a keystone to prevent infections. Education and communication with our licensees shares the importance of cleaning, disinfecting, sterilizing, and sanitizing to promote well-being and keep the public safe.

Thank you to staff, Board Members and Governor Sandoval for the opportunity to serve the State of Nevada as an appointed member and 2016 President of the Nevada State Board of Cosmetology, and contribute my efforts to protect the public health, safety and welfare.